

Minutes of the Tuesday, May 4, 2010 CTEC Meeting

The meeting of the Chatham Township Environmental Commission convened at 7:15 pm on Tuesday, May 4, 2010 at the Township Municipal Building. In attendance were CTEC members K. Abbott, L. Caprioglio, S. Carroll, F. Esposito, S. Hoag, D. Stillinger, Associate CTEC members Shankar Krishnan, and Mary Olmsted, Girl Scout Leader and Jennifer Olmsted and Tess Kolker 8th grade girl scout members.

CTEC'S PURPOSE: to undertake projects and make recommendations concerning the protection or use of natural resources, including water resources, located within or directly affecting Chatham Township.

OPEN PUBLIC MEETING STATEMENT -- The meeting schedule for 2010 is posted on the main bulletin board at the Township municipal building and mentioned on the Chatham Township website at www.chathamtownship.org. It has been sent to the Chatham Courier and Daily Record newspapers. The public is cordially invited to attend all meetings, join the discussions and participate in projects.

The Chatham Township Environmental Commission's goal is to provide a responsible environmental viewpoint to Township committees and boards and to undertake projects with a strong educational component in order to inform officials and residents about constructive actions that can be taken to preserve the environment.

S. Carroll motioned to approve CTEC and Green Team minutes from April 6, 2010 and L. Caprioglio 2nd with all in favor.

CTEC AND GREEN TEAM MEETING DATES FOR 2010 AND JANUARY 2011.

Every first Tuesday, except no meeting in July, at 7:15 PM at the Chatham Township municipal building. The dates are Jan 5, Feb 2, Mar 2, Apr 6, May 4, Jun 1, July no meeting, Aug 3, Sep 7, Oct 5, Nov 2, Dec 7, 2010 and Jan 11, 2011.

DISCUSSION

Girl Scouts Tess Kolker, Jennifer Olmsted and Leader Mary Olmsted approached the CTEC for information and questions regarding a recycling project they are working on. F. Esposito suggested to look at the CTEC webpage, K. Abbott suggested to contact the County recycling center.

GREEN TEAM MEETING (convened 7:37 pm – adjourned 8:10 pm)

Reviewed status of Sustainable Jersey Program, which is the same since February. Twp Committee passed Resolution 2010-096 supporting participation in the CPI initiative. D. Stillinger motioned to approve Steve Carroll as Outreach Coordinator of CPI, K. Abbott 2nd with all in favor.

EVENTS

- Wednesday, May 05, 2010 from 6:00 PM - 8:30 PM, Sustainable Jersey Event in Morristown, Location: Hyatt Morristown at Headquarters Plaza, 3 Speedwell Avenue, Morristown, NJ 07960, Register on-line: <http://sustainablejersey.eventbrite.com/> Fees will be charged. Mayors, town staff and green team members can trade ideas for sustainable programs, provide feedback on Sustainable Jersey and make new connections with leaders from across the state. A short presentation will be provided on new Sustainable Jersey program elements, upcoming trainings and grants. Cash bar and light hors d'oeuvres.
- Saturday, May 8. Electronics and hazardous waste recycling by Morris County Municipal Utilities Authority. Chatham High School parking lot.
- Monday, May 10, 8 a.m., Frelinghuysen Arboretum. Morris County Green Table Forum, Trails - Funding the Way. Guest Speakers: Sheree Davis, NJDOT Bicycle & Pedestrian Office & Transportation Demand Management Office & Bill Foelsch, Chairman, NJ Trails Council. Funding resources available to municipalities for the creation and/or maintenance of trail systems. The discussion will include what funding agencies look for and proper protocol for municipalities when applying to funding agencies. The NJ Trails Plan and how it relates to Morris County will also be reviewed. www.morrisgreentable.org. \$5.
- Thursday, May 13, 2010 from 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM, Sustainable Jersey Event in Cherry Hill, Location: Andreotti's Viennese Café, 1442 Marlton Pike (Route 70), Cherry Hill, NJ 08034, Register on-line: <http://sustainablejersey2.eventbrite.com/>
- Monday, May 17, 7:00 AM to mid-afternoon. The New Jersey Highlands Coalition, Bird-a-thon. www.njhighlandscoalition.org.
- Tuesday, May 18, 8:45 AM–2:30 PM. Delaware River Greenway Partnership invites you to a forum, Health of the Delaware: Facing the Threats, Speakers Carol Collier, AICP Executive Director, Delaware River Basin Commission, Betsy Lyman, Director, Northeast Exotic Plant Management Team, National Park Service, D. Andrew Piltz, Vice President,

Strategic Policy and Planning, Natural Lands Trust. Prallsville Mills, Rte 29, Stockton NJ. Registration Fee: \$25, lunch included. Download registration form from delrivgreenway.org or call 610-847-8650.

- Tuesday, June 1, 8 AM. SEAMLESS. Madison Library, Chase Room. All welcome.
- Tuesday, June 22, Fourth Passaic River Symposium, Organized by the Passaic River Institute of Montclair State University, Montclair State University Conference Center, 1 Normal Ave., Montclair, NJ, www.csam.montclair.edu/pri/conferences. \$95.

GRANTS

New Jersey American Water awarded a \$5,000 grant to the Community Education and Outreach Committee and an additional grant of \$600 for the purchase of six rain barrels. Congratulations to Pat Collington for writing the grant and staying in contact with New Jersey American.

CONGRATULATIONS to the Green Team on achieving Sustainable Jersey Certification and the Sustainable Jersey Collaboration Award for Chatham Township and Chatham Borough. Congratulations to S. Carroll for all his detailed work, P. Collington for her tireless education and outreach work, and to S. Hoag for the many hours she spent on the expanded recycling program and recycling collection shed, an SJ action item, and J. Matthews for her help with the Green Fair, energy audit and expanded recycling. Primary credit for Chatham Township's share of the Collaboration award should go to K. Abbott and P. Collington, who led both the Green Fair and anti-idling efforts.

REPORTS

- Open Space Committee report. Committee walked a few potential property acquisitions. These properties would be good for trails. The Township recently received two additional properties through tax liens. Commission reviewed the block/lots and discussed these properties. Open Space received a letter back from Planning Board. They will start to revise the open space plan. S. Hoag.
- Planning Board report. Rolling Knolls declared a redevelopment area. Planner made 1st attempt to rewrite redevelopment plan. Planning Board reviewed three pending land use ordinances from twp committee. L. Caprioglio.
- Township Committee report. Introduced steep slope ordinance (D. Stillinger for W. O'Connor)
- Community Education and Outreach Committee report. . Compost program. Rain barrel program. Friday, April 16 - Kick Off Event for the Composters and Rain Barrels Program (Save it to Spade it!~Soak it--Don't Send it!)---over 100 purchased, composters, rain barrels, and accessories. High School Pepsi grant pending. The HS is still interested in exploring composting. This committee set up an Earth Day display in Town Hall. Farmers market on board to continue food films: Food Inc., and the Future of Food. P. Collington, K. Abbott, R. Barrett.
- Website Committee report. Requesting pictures of events for posting on website. F. Esposito.

DISCUSSION/ACTIONS

- P. Collington staffed the CTEC table at the Morris County Park Commission's Earth Day Fair on Saturday, April 17.
- Report on screening of "A Chemical Reaction," a film about the health risks of conventional lawn chemicals, twice in April. Attendance, 20+ people each time.
- Pesticides will not be applied at Colony Pool, would like to display "Pesticide Free" sign. - K. Abbott.
- Report on Eighth Annual Riverside Cleanup Saturday April 17. 86 attendees, 35 bags of trash, assorted scrap metal and plastic, and a water heater (which was stolen after being placed curbside.) New educational feature was a scavenger-hunt type handout with pictures and descriptions of plants to be found along the riverside. Thanks to Chatham Disposal for free pickup of the trash.
- Review for possible approval A. Fair's letter to DEP on solar farms in wetlands. – CTEC discussed this issue, not ready to sign letter as worded. S. Carroll will talk with A. Fair.
- July tax mailing is an inexpensive way to distribute the pesticide brochure or any other EC material.

ISSUES

- Ten Towns Committee/Great Swamp Watershed Association ROW vegetation management plan. Ten Towns Committee will dissolve on June 30, possibly turning over to GSWA some functions. K. Abbott and D. Stillinger along with Steve Mountain, Mendham Township Administrator, and members of the GSWA Land Use Committee will meet again with representatives from PSE&G and JCP&L on June 2 to evaluate progress toward a mutually agreeable plan. Texas Eastern Gas Line – S. Carroll motioned to approve sending a letter to DEP and S. Hoag 2nd, with all in favor. Draft letter will be sent for minor edits. (similar letter sent to JCPL).

APPLICATION/ENVIRONMENTAL PERMIT REVIEW

PENDING APPLICATION AND NEW LOI. CHATHAM DAY SCHOOL. 700 Shunpike Road. 4-5-10. Block 135, Lots 1 & 9. Application to DEP for LOI to determine extent of wetlands. Part of lot in southwest area may lie within buffer of wetlands across Shunpike. Report on Board of Adjustment hearing on April 22 attended by F. Esposito, S. Hoag and D. Stillinger. F. Esposito feels that the right questions are not being asked. S. Hoag acknowledged that once the environmental expert is at the meeting, the right questions will be asked. Next CDS BOA meeting May 20.

RECENT LETTERS SENT

- March 2010. Letter to NJDEP regarding wetlands permit application for Block 140, Lot 4.03. Comment to National Park Service via NPS website concerning PSE&G transmission lines through the Delaware Water Gap National Park.

MAIL RECEIVED

- Minutes of meetings of Chatham Borough and Long Hill Environmental Commissions.
- Various flyers, notices, and newsletters.

ADJOURN

CTEC MEETING ADJOURNED AT 9:45 PM.

Carolyn Scannelli
Minutes Secretary